

Winterport Business Association Meeting
Town Office, Main Street, Winterport, Maine
Wednesday, November 10, 2010

1. Convene Meeting / Mission Statement
2. Introductions of People Attending Meeting
3. Accept Minutes of Last Meeting - Wednesday, September 8, 2010
(No meeting in October)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. New Business
 - a. Town Sign Project
 - b. Holiday Party
 - c. Responses from 2010 Membership Forms
 - d. Referrals – How to Give and Get
6. Old Business
7. Open Table – “Idea Exchange”
8. Next Meeting – Christmas Party, Friday, December 17
114 Main Street, Winterport

The Winterport Area Business Association
Wednesday, November 10, 2010
Town Office, Main Street, Winterport, Maine

Meeting began at 6:00 p.m. and the Mission Statement was read.

Introductions of those members in attendance were conducted:

Bernie Littlefield, Bel Portraits - President
Ann Ronco, Old Winterport Commercial House – Secretary
Tammy Higgins – Treasurer
Steve Andrew, A-1 Safe Storage
Marcel St. Denis, Resident

The meeting minutes of Wednesday, September 8 was voted on and approved unanimously.

Tammy reported that there is \$2,216.10 in the association's account and dues have been collected from 30 members. This is an increase from last year.

Bernie stated that the Town has asked WABA if it would be willing to refurbish the "Welcome to Winterport" signs. Questions such as if we need to do a fund raiser and what the cost would be were discussed. Bernie will obtain an estimate from DaVinci Signs. Steve suggested we may want to think about adding something to these signs for the business of the month or maybe tie this project to the town's reader board.

WABA's Christmas Party will be held on Friday, December 17 at The Old Winterport Commercial House, 114 Main Street, Winterport. Early birds can show up beginning at 4:30 p.m. and it'll continue until approximately 7:00 p.m. All businesses and the general public are invited. Following this event there is the Live Nativity taking place at 7:00 at The Union Meeting House. The Playschool will be doing their annual fund raiser of selling hot chocolate there as well.

Ann reported that there was a decent response to the membership dues drive by "snail mail." No one returning their membership forms though had any response to the question of changing the meeting time or day to make it more convenient.

Bernie told members that Deb Newman suggested she do a seminar for us on how to utilize Facebook and Twitter. This was well received.

The members then discussed the benefits of referrals and how, by attending our meetings, we can work off each other to find business and make contacts to increase our business. Bernie reminded members that you never know who knows who. It was also discussed how we shouldn't take for granted that others know of our businesses just because we have one.

Tammy suggested we utilize Facebook more by utilizing the Discussion Board.

It was reminded that businesses that have not paid their dues will lose the privilege of free advertising on the town's website.

Tammy reminded Bernie about purchasing a fireworks picture for Phil Foley to say thank you for the great job he did this past summer. Bernie asked the group about reimbursing him for one of his tables that was damaged at the bar-b-que this summer. Members unanimously agreed to do so. It was also stated that we never received an invoice from the rental facility for the bounce house. Bernie will tell Stephanie.

It was asked if the association was definitely going to organize the family area/vendor area again at the music festival. He stated that this is something the association should vote on. Ann suggested we add a rock wall next year.

A reminder that after the holidays a meeting will be planned with participates of the farmer's market to discuss doing it again in 2011.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm

There will be no regular meeting in December. In its place will be the Christmas Party at Friday, December 17.